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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10489 231607Z

45
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05

NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-06 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 OES-03

SMI-01 /049 W
---------- 016174
R 231459Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1008
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR UNESCO AND RFC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OSCI, EG
SUBJECT: US CONTRIBUTION TO PHILAE TEMPLE RESTORATION

REF STATE 221726; 213827; 114298; PARIS 23705; CAIRO 3223

1. AT FRENCH RECEPTION LAST EVENING, DR. GAMAL MOKHTAR, GOE DIRECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES, RAISED WITH ME THE MATTER OF THE US CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNESCO'S PHILAE TEMPLE PROJECT. ACCORDING TO MOKHTAR, ALTHOUGH US PERMREP IN PARIS HAD ANNOUNCED EARLIER THISYEAR A CONTRIBUTION OF $1 MILLION AND IN OCT A SECOND INSTALLMENT OF THE SAMEAMOUNT (BOTH IN EGYPTIAN POUNDS), NONE OF THESE FUNDS HAVE AS YET BEEN RECEIVED. THE PROJECT, MOKHTAR EXPLAINED, IS IN DESPERATE NEED OF THESE FUNDS. HE ASKED MY ASSISTANCE TO EXPEDITE DISBURSEMENT THEREOF.

2. AS I HAVE TODAY INDEPENDENTLY VERIFIED THE ABOVE WITH AMBASSADOR RAHEEM, UNESCO RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN CAIRO.

3. THE AFOREMENTIONED FUNDS REFER TO FY '74 AND '75
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 10489 231607Z

CONTRIBUTIONS. WE ASSUME THAT THEY ARE TO BE TURNED

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

OVER TO UNESCO IN CAIRO. HOWEVER, IN ABSENCE AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE THESE TWO DISBURSEMENTS, EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO REQUEST RFC PARIS TO PREPARE NECESSARY CHECK FOR DEPQOSIT IN THE UNESCO ACCOUNT IN CAIRO. SINCE SMITHSONIAN IS PRESUMABLY CHARGED WITH PREPARING NEEDED DOCUMENTATION FOR TRANSFER,REQUEST DEPARTMENT URGENTLY ASCERTAIN STATUS OF PAYMENT OF THESE TWO INSTALLMENTS AND, IF NOT ALREADY FINALIZED, URGE EXPEDITIOUS ACTION. WE LOOK SILLY ANNOUNCING SUCH SONTRIBUTIONS AND THEN FAILING TO PAY THEM PROMPTLY.

4. I TRUST RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO WITHHOLD ASSISTANCE TO UNESCO DOES NOT APPLY TO COMMITMENTS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED AND ANNOUNCED ESPECIALLY TO A DESERVING CULTURAL PROJECT SUCH AS THE PHILAE TEMPLE RESTORATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 23 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
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